

Appln No. 09/693,219
Amdt. Dated August 04, 2004
Response to Office action of May 27, 2004

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method enabling the copying of documents, the method including the steps of:

scanning a document ~~which may~~that contains both document information and coded data indicative of an identity of the document, and forming a digital image of the document;

~~detecting, if the document contains said coded data indicative of the identity of the document, the coded data;~~

~~if the document contains said coded data indicative of the identity of the document, accessing stored data representing the content of the document;~~

~~identifying differences between the digital image and the stored data; and~~

printing a copy of the document and, at the same time, printing on the copy coded data indicative of an identity of the copy;

wherein the printed copy of the document includes information derived from both the digital image of the document and the stored data representing the content of the document.

2. (Currently amended) A method enabling the copying of documents, the method including the steps of:

scanning a document ~~which may~~that contains both document information and coded data indicative of an identity of the document, and forming a digital image of the document;

~~detecting, if the document contains said coded data indicative of the identity of the document, the coded data;~~

~~if the document contains said coded data indicative of the identity of the document, accessing stored first data representing the content of the document;~~

identifying differences between the digital image and the stored first data and

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storing second data representing a copy of the document, the stored second data including a unique identifier for ~~said the~~ copy;

wherein the stored second data representing a copy of the document includes information derived from both the digital image of the document and the stored first data representing the content of the document.

3-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said coded data indicative of an identity of the copy is indicative of a plurality of reference points on said copy, the coded data being printed to be readable by a sensing device operated by a user in order to identify the position of the sensing device relative to the copy.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 1, including the step of storing data representing said copy of the document, to enable reproduction of said copy with both document information and coded data.

8. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2 or claim 7, the data ~~storing~~ storing second data step involving archiving said second data and allocating a unique identifier for each said copy.

9. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 8, the archiving ~~or said of the~~ second data and the allocating of said unique copy identifier being realised by respective computer servers.

10. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2 or claim 7, the data ~~storing~~ storing second data step being carried out in a location remote from the scanning or the printing steps.

11. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2 or claim 7, including the step

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of carrying out optical character recognition (OCR) on at least part of the content of the scanned document, and associating the result of said OCR with said stored second data representing said copy of the document, to enable searching of the content of said copy.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said coded data is substantially invisible to the eye.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said coded data is visible to the eye, and embedded within visible document information.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~14~~1, wherein an operator may choose whether said copy of the document includes information derived from the digital image of the document~~said additional or omitted document information.~~

16. (Original) A method according to claim 1, including an authorisation step before said printing step can be carried out.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the copy is a multipage document, including the step of binding together the printed pages.

18. (Currently amended) A system enabling the copying of documents, including:

a scanner for scanning a document ~~which may~~that contains both document information and coded data indicative of an identity of the document and enabling formation of a digital image of the document;

a detector for detecting ~~if the document contains said coded data indicative of the identity of the document;~~ the coded data;

a data store including data representing document content, ~~accessible if the~~

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~~document contains said coded data indicative of the identity of the document; and~~

a printer adapted for printing a copy of the document and, at the same time, printing on the copy coded data indicative of an identity of the copy, wherein the printed copy of the document includes information derived from both the digital image of the document and the data representing document content.

19. (Currently amended) A system enabling the copying of documents, including:

a scanner for scanning a document ~~which may that~~ contains both document information and coded data indicative of an identity of the document and enabling formation of a digital image of the document;

a detector for detecting, ~~if the document contains said coded data indicative of the identity of the document;~~ the coded data;

a first data store including data representing document content, ~~accessible if the document contains said coded data indicative of the identity of the document; and~~

a second data store ~~for storing~~ including data representing a copy of the document, together with a unique identifier for the copy;

wherein data in the second data store representing a copy of the document includes information derived from both the digital image of the document and the data in the first data store representing document content.

20. (Currently amended) A system according to claim 19, including a server for allocating a unique identifier to each ~~said~~ the copy.

21. (Currently amended) A system according to claim 19 connectable with a printer adapted for printing a the copy of the document and, at the same time, printing on the copy coded data indicative of an identity of the copy.

22. (Original) A system according to claim 18 or claim 21, including a sensing device operable by a user to identify said coded data printed on said copy.

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23. (Original) A system according to claim 22, the sensing device including a marking nib.
24. (Original) A system according to claim 22, the sensing device including an identification means which imparts a unique identity to the sensing device, the system able to associate the identifier for the copy with the identity of the sensing device.
25. (Original) A system according to claim 18 or claim 21, the printer including a binder for binding the pages of a multi-page copy.
26. (Original) A system according to claim 18 or claim 21, the scanner and the printer being provided as parts of a single apparatus.
27. (Original) A system according to claim 18 or claim 19, the scanner and the detector being provided as parts of a single apparatus.
28. (Original) A system according to claim 27, the scanner comprising a moving linear image sensor device, the detector carried by this device.
29. (Original) A system according to claim 22, the sensing device adapted to communicate with a base station, the scanner and the base station provided as parts of a single apparatus.
30. (Original) A system according to claim 18 or claim 19, including authorisation means to prevent use by an unauthorised user.